

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-23. (canceled)

24. (new) An isolated nucleic acid molecule, wherein the nucleotide sequence of said nucleic acid molecule consists of a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) a nucleotide sequence that encodes a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:5;
- (b) SEQ ID NO:4;
- (c) nucleotides 2118-50409 of SEQ ID NO:3; and
- (d) a nucleotide sequence that is completely complementary to the nucleotide sequence of (a), (b), or (c).

25. (new) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) a transcript or cDNA sequence that encodes a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:5;
- (b) SEQ ID NO:4; and
- (c) a nucleotide sequence that is completely complementary to the nucleotide sequence of (a) or (b).

26. (new) An isolated nucleic acid molecule, wherein the nucleotide sequence of said nucleic acid molecule consists of SEQ ID NO:4 or the complete complement thereof.

27. (new) An isolated nucleic acid molecule, wherein the nucleotide sequence of said nucleic acid molecule consists of nucleotides 2118-50409 of SEQ ID NO:3 or the complete complement thereof.

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28. (new) An isolated nucleic acid molecule having a nucleotide sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:4 or the complete complement thereof.
29. (new) An isolated nucleic acid molecule, wherein the nucleotide sequence of said nucleic acid molecule consists of a nucleotide sequence that encodes a polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO:5, or the complete complement of said nucleotide sequence..
30. (new) An isolated transcript or cDNA nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence that encodes a polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO:5, or the complete complement of said nucleotide sequence.
31. (new) A nucleic acid construct comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 24 fused to a heterologous nucleotide sequence.
32. (new) The nucleic acid construct of claim 31, wherein the heterologous nucleotide sequence encodes a heterologous amino acid sequence.
33. (new) A vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 24-30.
34. (new) An isolated host cell containing the vector of claim 33.
35. (new) A process for producing a polypeptide, the process comprising culturing the host cell of claim 34 under conditions sufficient for the production of said polypeptide, and recovering said polypeptide.
36. (new) The vector of claim 33, wherein said vector is selected from the group consisting of a plasmid, a virus, and a bacteriophage.

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37. (new) The vector of claim 33, wherein said nucleic acid molecule is inserted into said vector in proper orientation and correct reading frame such that a polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO:2 is expressed by a cell transformed with said vector.

38. (new) The vector of claim 37, wherein said isolated nucleic acid molecule is operatively linked to a promoter sequence.